

June

Magic Lantern Society
US and Canada

NEWS 2016



In the Spring a young man's

Be Sure to LOOK for those Buttons and roll-over effects
Click Slide for more!

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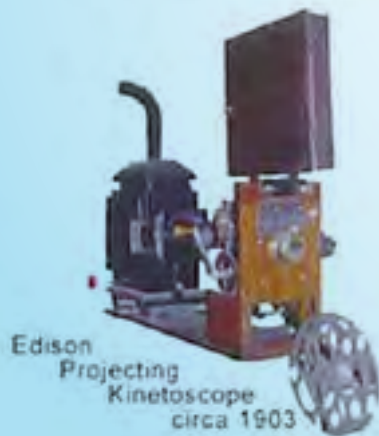
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fancy lightly turns to thoughts of song slides



2016 Convention

17th International Convention
October 6-9, 2016
 Best Western Landmark Hotel, Metairie, LA
 New Orleans, Louisiana, USA

Sunday afternoon tour of University of New Orleans

The Robert E. Fleshman Collection

In 2013 the University of New Orleans Nims Center for Entertainment Arts received a significant collection of 19th Century pre-cinema optical devices and Victorian parlor amusements from the estate of Mr Robert E Fleshman, a noted mime artist and chairman of the theatre department at Loyola University /New Orleans.

It was known only to a small circle of Bob's friends and family that he was an avid collector of pre-cinema optical devices for over 40 years. Upon his passing more than 300 historic and rare items had been collected and displayed in the attic of his New Orleans home.

The Collection includes magic lanterns, glass lantern slides, optical toys, early Edison projectors, hand-cranked Mutoscopes, working models of optical machines, and other long forgotten experimental devices from the mid 1800's through the early 1900's.

2016 New Orleans Convention Presentation Offers Welcome

We have a great lineup of presentations for the New Orleans Convention but welcome a few more for consideration. Presentation offers utilizing original magic lantern slides and/or following the convention theme are most appreciated. If you have a presentation topic of any type, please contact Ron at rlasterday@comcast.net. We are actively in process of preparing the presentation schedule.

Convention Teasers

June, July, August, September and October e-pubs will feature tidbits of upcoming New Orleans Convention presentations that you will not want to miss. Hope you can join us in October at our 17th Convention!

Now the disclaimer: Presentations and the final program are a work in progress and no presentation featured can be guaranteed until it happens, subject to schedule and logistical arrangements. Following are shows members and guests have offered to present in order to spread their knowledge and love of the media.

Some of the topics submitted that you are likely to see in New Orleans include:

- Music In the Bayou
- Nishiki Kage-e "The Law of Reincarnation of an Old Fox"
- Popular Science Lectures with the Magic Lantern in 19th Century America, focusing on astronomy slides
- Dickens Theatre
- Buhoup's Great Floating Hindoo Pagoda (Showboat on the Mississippi)
- Song slides on the theme of the 2015 book: Reinventing Dixie: Tin Pan Alley's Songs and the Creation of the Mythic South

continued next page

Convention Information Continued

This month we feature Nishiki Kage-e presentation: “The Law of Reincarnation of an Old Fox”, a wonderful treat you will not want to miss. If you saw one of the presentations at the 2008 Washington, DC convention or 2014 Boston convention, you have an idea of what an amazing art form this is.

Nishiki Kage-e is a Japanese shadow play using a number of wooden magic lanterns and a handmade paper screen. By using multiple handheld wooden lanterns with built-in movement on the slides and projecting images from behind the screen, the lantern performers add mobility to still images and characters. With traditional Japanese



techniques of woodcraft, paper making, and dyeing as well as synchronized music and narration, pictorial images are effectively turned into dynamic existences and a mysterious world emerges on the screen.

spirit possessed of supernatural power and the ability to communicate with humans, or as a mischievous trickster with the power of disguise. Because of that, foxes have been enshrined as a type of god among many Japanese. With new trick slides created specifically for this play, the troop will depict a mysterious world of human and fox and between dream and reality.



“The Law of Reincarnation of an Old Fox” is the most recent play by Nishiki Kage-e Ikeda-Gumi, a collaborative research project by Prof. Mitsue Ikeda and the students at Osaka University of Arts. In Japanese folklore, literature, and mythology, foxes are depicted as a



Check-Out Larry Rakow's New Web Site

From Larry Rakow

<http://www.professoroptix.com>



The new website is up and running! I still want to make some changes (more slides, especially, on the Typical Lantern Show page), but that can come when I have time.

Gifted a Collection of Lantern Slides

<http://www.lakeplacidhistory.com/frederick-fountains-magic-lantern-slides/>



Frederick Fountain's Magic Lantern Slides

By: Carla Eilo

Slides that had once belonged to Frederick H. Fountain of Lake Placid.

The slides depict fantastic scenes of the Adirondacks at the turn of the century. There is an image of tourists riding a Stagecoach to their hotel. Another is of a hiker looking over the mountain peak. One of the most notable and recognizable is a photo depicting visitors on the rails with their luggage next to the first Lake Placid Train Station.



PENNY DREADFUL MAGIC LANTERN

From Larry Rakow

Hi David...

I know that horror isn't to everyone's taste, but the stylish Showtime drama, Penny Dreadful has managed to bring together most of the Victorian horror characters in one very entertaining show: Dracula, Frankenstein (and his monsters), Dr Jekyll, the werewolf, Dorian Gray, and more. Best of all, in Season Three, Episode 2, there's a wonderful magic lantern sequence at about 40 minutes in (of 20,000 Leagues Under the Sea). Nice!

Larry R.



Introducing the Photographers' Identities Catalog The New York Public Library

From Ron Easterday

<http://www.nypl.org/blog/2016/03/25/introducing-pic>



March 25, 2016

Today the New York Public Library is pleased to announce the launch of Photographers' Identities Catalog (PIC), a collection of biographical data for over 115,000 photographers, studios, manufacturers, dealers, and others involved in the production of photographs. PIC is world-wide in scope and spans the the entire history of photography

Response to Last Months Slides of the USA

From Clive Walker

clivewalker59@gmail.com

David,

What a great newsletter, thank you for including me.

I've contacted the UK Society and a gentleman called George Aukland has given me some more info on the Slide House which is very interesting and also another link to a set that was auctioned last year (which look almost the same, the box is identical).

Regards

Clive W

<http://www.the-saleroom.com/en-gb/auction-catalogues/martel-maides-auctions/catalogue-id-srmart10012/lot-8751fc98-56ad-44fe-995d-a4b200d89550>



<http://www.slides.uni-trier.de/organisation/index.php?id=1001542>

LUCERNA – the Magic Lantern Web Resource

Organisation: The Slide House

Organisation history

Historical details of this organisation

Full name	The Slide House Ltd
Short name	The Slide House
Known activities	1920s-1950s slide rental/hire
Date and place of foundation	c.1928 – London, England
Date of winding-up	c.1957
Notes	<p>The exact relationship between 'The Slide House' and Luscombe Toms is slightly blurred: in the 1920s 'The Slide House' appears to have been a trade name used by Toms' business, but by the late 1930s was the name of the company itself. Its last appearance in the London telephone directory (as 'Lantern Slide Makers') was in November 1956, suggesting that the company ceased trading in late 1956 or early 1957.</p> <p>Queen Victoria Street was heavily damaged in air raids in May 1941, and this is likely to have been the date and reason for the company's relocation to Petty France.</p>
Related organisations	took over business of H. Luscombe Toms , c.1928
Known locations/addresses	(In some cases the organisation may have been at that location earlier or later than shown) 1920-1939 business address: 52 Queen Victoria Street, London EC4, England 1942-1956 business address: 59 Petty France, London SW1, England
Lucerna ID no. 1001542	Record created by Richard Crangle. Last updated 10 February 2015

From David Evans

Hello Clive

Good idea! George is a friend of ours, past Chairman of the MLS in UK and also a member of our society. I hadn't thought of checking on the Lucerna database - a very useful facility which I have used in the past.

It is good to know more about them. I wonder what the slides sold for... estimates often have nothing to do with sale prices!

Thanks for letting me know.

Regards

David

Lantern Slides Illuminated Lectures

<http://www.news.cornell.edu/stories/2015/10/cornell-rewind-lantern-slides-illuminated-lectures>

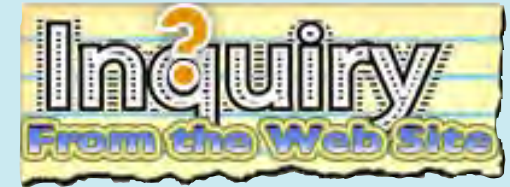


Credit: Blaine Friedlander/Cornell Chronicle

A tiny fraction of the thousands of glass lantern slides contained in the library's collection.



Cornell University Library Rare and Manuscript Collection
A lantern slide depicts Cornell students and Ithaca residents skating on a frozen Beebe Lake around the turn of the last century.



Baseball Slides

From Brandy Hartley

osuroks4108@gmail.com

My mother whom is 50 years old has a box of old glass lantern slides. It looks to be a set of baseball comics of a negro team. These were given to her by her aunt whom would be close to 80 if she was alive. They were given to her Aunt from her mother-in-law. An old school Italian lady. We live near Pittsburgh PA. Is there anywhere to find out more about these slides?

From David Evans

Hello Brandy

If you could send me some pictures of them we could include them in our next monthly E-publication (June) , which goes to all our members. It is quite probable that one of them will know something about them. If there are any slide maker's marks, labels etc on them it would help to know about these too. Are the slides 4" x 3 1/4" format, or some other size?

Thank you for contacting us.

David Evans

Secretary-Treasurer

Magic Lantern Society of US & Canada



From Ed Bartkus

ejbart1@msn.com

I have an electric lantern slide projector - very old.

It has a small plaque on the front which says "Unis France 78 11"

On the body of the projector are stamped the letters D L overlaid one on top of the other.

I wanted to send you photos but don't know how to do that via this type of response.

I would like to know more about what I have and whether you could give me an e-mail address to which I could send pictures.

I could not find anything like this projector on the web.

I found many dolls apparently made by Unis but no projectors.

Can you help ??

Ed Bartkus

Warrington, Pa.

cell phone number is 215-896-6131

Unis France Lantern Projector

Thank you for getting back to me so quickly.

Here are many photos which should give you an excellent idea of the projector.

I opened it up to replace the bulb and found it was a standard 60 watt bulb (surprised me - I thought it might have a special bulb).

At any rate, it works but I do not have any slides. I would be interested in any information you can give me about the projector.

I would be willing to sell it and, if you are interested, would consider any fair price.

If you have any questions re the pictures, please let me know.

Thanks so much for your help.

Take care,
Ed Bartkus



From David Evans

The Unis France label is the mark of A Matthey of 15 Rue Clavel, Paris, a major manufacturer of stereoscopes. I have not seen a magic lantern by them before. The initials LD are a bit speculative, but might indicate Ledoux, a major distributor of Matthey products and also based in Paris.

It was undoubtedly not intended to have a standard 60 watt bulb - there were many varieties of projection lamp bulbs around in the 1920s that it may have had. It was probably more like 200 watt or so to give a big, bright picture.

We can add your pictures to our monthly E-Publication, which goes to all members, and may well result in a sale. We can say that offers will be considered if that works for you. Where are you located?

Regards

David

Lantern & Slide Catalogs Wanted for Digitization!

From Dr Sarah Dellmann

As part of the collaborative project “A Million Pictures” <http://a-million-pictures.wp.hum.uu.nl/>, an initiative to digitize catalogs of lantern slide sellers, producers and retailers is underway. The Media History Digital Library (www.mediahistoryproject.org), a sub-collection of Internet Archive (www.archive.org) agreed to host digital copies of the catalogs and make them publicly accessible. The first (German and Dutch) catalogs are online here:

<https://archive.org/details/LichtbilderIn-WoodburyDruck1905Images>

<https://archive.org/details/Liesegang-Prospekt4151910Images>

<https://archive.org/details/Merkelbach-Beeldengalerij1903>

Catalogs are precious material for the identification of slides. Until now, there is no central platform for storing this material and we are convinced that collectors, archivists and researchers alike will benefit from a central access point to catalogs of magic lanterns, lantern slides and/or accessories, which you would like to make available on the Media History Digital Library, we would love to hear from you!

You can contribute in three ways:

If you already scanned the catalog, you can send us the file as it is and we will transform it so it is fit for presentation on MHDL. Even if it is already on your private website or published elsewhere, we would like to add the copy to MHDL. We are happy to link to the original website (see e.g. the German and Dutch) catalogs)

If you waited for such an initiative and now wish to start scanning material yourself, please save every single page in a single file and send us the folder. That makes it easier for us. Please scan files in minimum 300 dpi and .tiff format as this works best for the character recognition software that will enable full-text search.

If you have a hard copy at home, no chance of scanning and you happen to be nearby Utrecht, we can scan the catalog for you. If you dare sending the catalog by mail to the Netherlands we assure you to send it back after scanning with tracked packaging. We will use flatbed-scanners for thin catalogs in good condition and arrange for a book scanner at the university library (for thick and/or fragile material).

We look for catalogs in all languages and of all periods. Providers of catalogs will be credited or left anonymous according to their wish.

Contact us for any question you may have about this digitizing project!
Best wishes from Utrecht,
Sarah (s.dellmann@uu.nl) & Liselotte (e.c.c.westerterp@uu.nl)



A Special Opportunity

Lantern Sale to Benefit Society

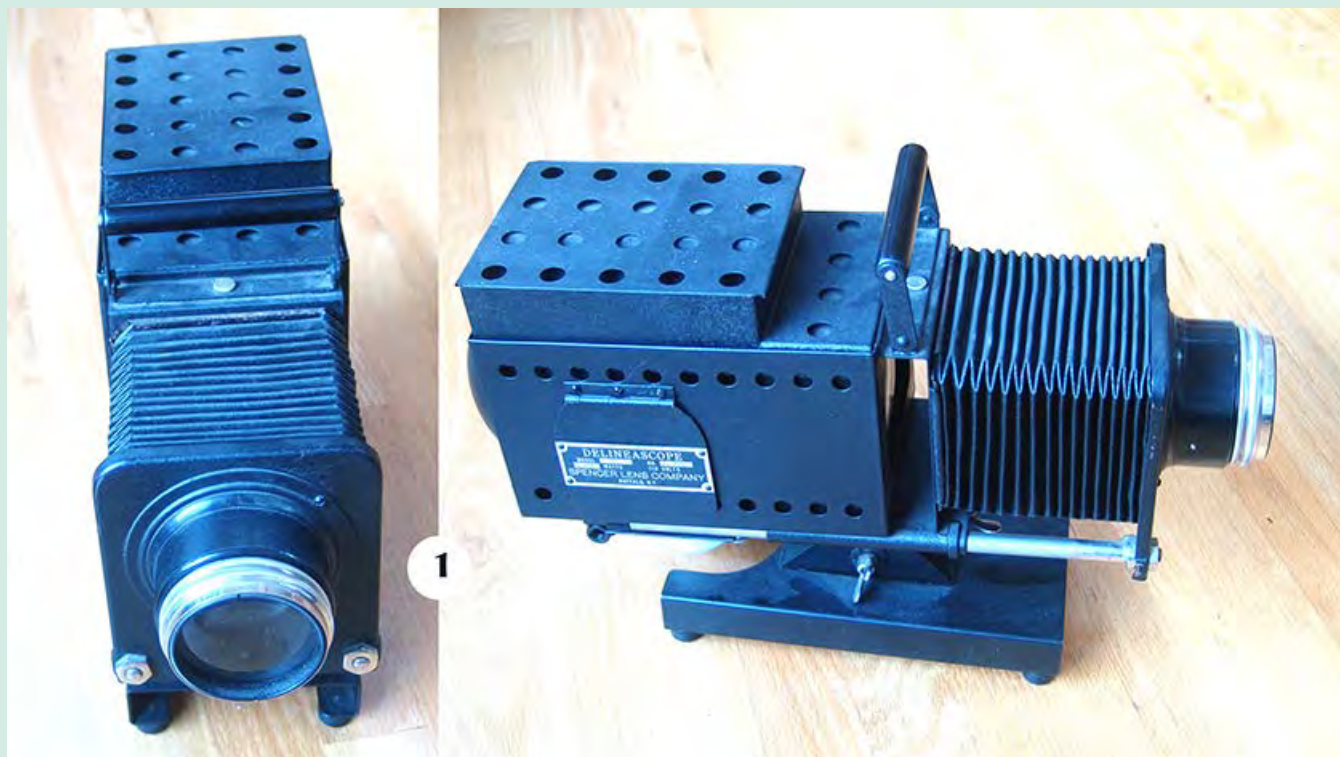
Bids are due to president@magiclanternsociety.org
no later than 14 days after the e-pub is issued.

A number of lanterns, six or so, and several post card projectors will be offered for sale in the e-pub with all proceeds to the benefit of the Society. One or two will be featured each month in the e-pub.

Items are sold as-is. Buyer is responsible for shipping costs based on the shipping method of the buyers choice. There is no reserve.

This is a great opportunity to add to your collection or pick up a lantern at a modest price and donate it to your local historical society that has slides and no lantern. Most lanterns are serviceable with a bit of TLC or a missing part or two, as noted in the descriptions.

Lantern slide projector Delineascope
Manufacturer: Spencer Lens Company
Incomplete without: • slide carrier • box • Light bulb • cord
Light Sources • electrical light
Condition:
Excellent 5 4 3 2 1 Poor
Dated • 1900- 1960



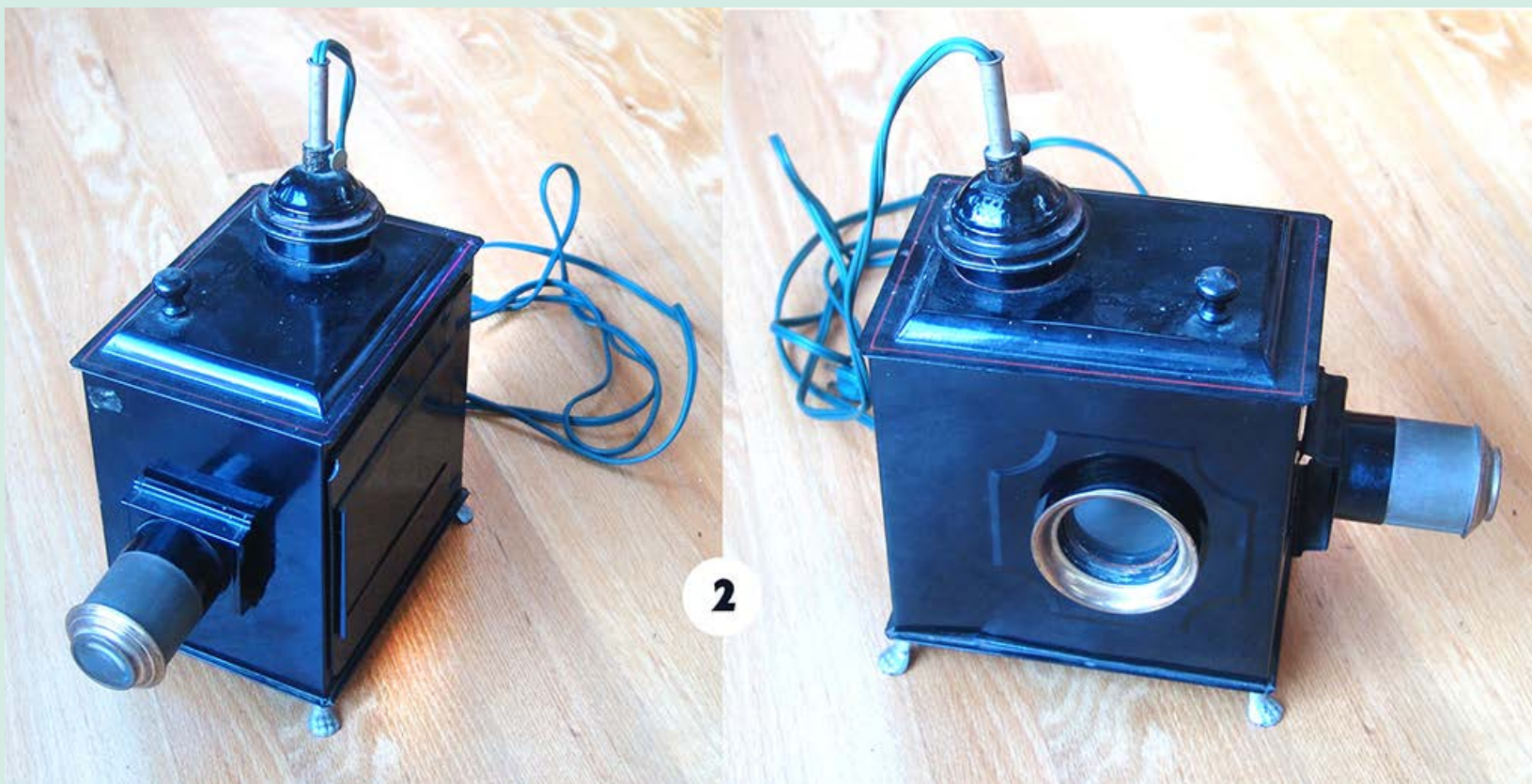
continued next page



Lantern Sale Continued

Post card and lantern projector
Incomplete without: • box or • Light bulb
Light Sources • electrical light
Condition:
Excellent 5 4 3 2 1 Poor
Manufacturer: Not Labeled
Dated • 1900- 1960

*add to your collection or pick up
a lantern at a modest price and
donate it to your local historical
society*



**Bids are due to president@magiclanternsociety.org
no later than 14 days after the e-pub is issued.**

A Big Thank You to the following:

**Ed Bartkus
Dr Sarah Dellmann
Ron Easterday
David Evans
Brandy Hartley
John Potter
Larry Rakow
Clive Walker**

for contributing to this months issue.

Welcome Returning Members

Erkki Huhtamo

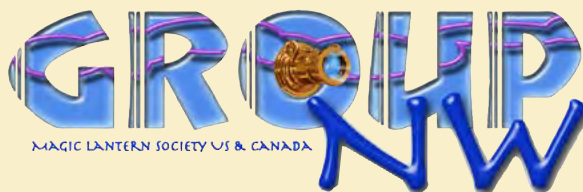
UCLA Dept of Design/Media Arts
Los Angeles
CA 90095

Becky Rylander

Gardner Bay Road
Sunapee
NH 03782
Interested in Beale, Sunapee and NH area slides.

Member Activity

Coming Events



Group NW June Meeting

Noon June 12

Dale and Joanna Chesnut

Tacoma, WA

Pot luck and sharing those show and tells.

If you would like the
Directions click here

LARRY

Corrections/Updates to members listed in the Directory

Larry Rakow

correct web site address

<http://www.professoroptix.com>



From John Potter

Here's a link to a fascinating collection of slides.

<http://www.messynessychic.com/2016/05/05/a-compedium-of-native-american-tipi-decoration-1900/>



Hand-colored slides of the Blackfoot community in northwestern Montana at the turn of the 19th century.

